

Redstone Rocket

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Money matters



Worker's suggestion
saves Army dollars

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Substance abuse office tests positive for good work

600 civilians and 2,000 soldiers
tested annually for drug usage

By SANDY RIEBELING

Staff writer
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We've heard it a million times: Just say no to drugs. Most people at Redstone are getting the message, at least the 3,200 or so in the installation's drug testing pools. About 20 tests have turned up hot so far this year compared to 69 positive results for 2001.

"We're down a lot from last year's numbers," Paula Hagy, installation biochemical test coordinator, said. "Of the 20 positive tests, some of those were repeat offenders — people already in rehab that tested positive again."

It's important to note that the number of positive tests is dropping while the number of people being tested is increasing. Last year, about 2,000 soldiers and 120 civilians were in testing pools. In January, expanded drug testing for civilians was implemented,

See **Testing** on page 9



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

SPECIMEN CHECK-IN— Paula Hagy, installation biochemical test coordinator, accepts urine specimens collected by drill sergeants, from left, SSgt. Donnie Clippinger, SFC Ramon Ortiz and SSgt. Elizabeth Austin, all unit prevention leaders of Charlie Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion.

Talking to troops



Fort Hood, Texas soldiers
greet defense secretary

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Military retirees have their annual appreciation day

Learn about benefits, current issues
Sept. 7 at Bob Jones Auditorium

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor
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Invitations have been sent to 39,600 military retirees throughout the local area and as far away as Memphis, Nashville, past Birmingham and around Anniston.

They're all invited along with their family members to Redstone Arsenal's 27th annual Retiree Appreciation Day, Saturday, Sept. 7 from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Bob Jones Auditorium.

"These are all retirees that we support in those areas," Cindy Anderson, retirement services officer, said. "This is an update on their retirement benefits."

The free event is co-sponsored by Retirement Services Office and the Redstone Arsenal Retiree Advisory Council. Lunch, for \$8 per person, is available in Sparkman Cafeteria. Lunch reservations are required and those interested can call Anderson at 876-2022.

Scheduled keynote speaker is retired Air Force Maj. Gen. Richard Murray, president of the National Association for Uniformed Services. NAUS, based in Springfield, Va., is a non-profit organization whose main mission is educating congressional and other government leaders about protecting veterans' benefits and maintaining a strong national defense.

About 40 informational tables will be set up outside the auditorium; and Fox Army Health Center will also have a room upstairs. A panel will include leaders from Redstone Arsenal Support Activity, Fox Army Health Center, Military Personnel Office,

Office of Staff Judge Advocate, Morale Welfare and Recreation, Post Exchange, Commissary and Retirement Services Office.

"If they (the retirees) have any concerns, this is their time to ask those people," Anderson said.

This is her first year coordinating the program formerly led by Phil Fredrich, now serving as the lead transition specialist.

"I think it's pretty important because this is their benefits," Anderson said of the appreciation day for retirees. "And one of the biggest benefits will be the federal long term health care and we're having a guest speaker on that as well."

The afternoon speakers include CWO 2 Michael Brzezicki, on "Tricare, Before and After Age 65," and Keith Rohnert on federal long term health care. Brzezicki, chief of network development and provider relations for the Department of Defense Health Services Region IV Lead Agent office, serves as the Coast Guard liaison officer to the command. Rohnert is a senior account manager at Long Term Care Partners, a joint venture between John Hancock Financial Services Inc. and Metropolitan Life Insurance Company devoted exclusively to administering the federal long term care insurance program.

Retired Lt. Gen. Jim Link and retired CSM Ernest Weir serve as co-chairmen of the 20-member Retiree Advisory Council. Other participants in the day's program include the 101st Airborne Screaming Eagle Jazz Combo.

Lawrence Welcome, a member of the Retiree Advisory Council, has helped with the program each year since retiring as a sergeant first class in 1985. "This is where we get to find out whatever updates we have," he said. "To me the average military person doesn't pay attention to that; he's like, what's in there for me. There's something in there. You have to get in there and work and preserve what benefits we have."

Win or lose



Pagano Gym workout
well worth commute

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Course polishes first sergeants

There are daily small group classroom discussions on stress management, Noncommissioned Officer evaluation reports, Army equal opportunity and sexual harassment policies, and lots of desert physical training. The First Sergeant's Course, which is part of the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy located at Fort Bliss, Texas and under the watchful eye of the Small Group Leader, has the responsibility of coaching and teaching present and future first sergeants the basic fundamentals on how to run a company. These fundamentals will assist the commander in daily unit operations and will allow the company to fight, survive and win on the battlefield of the future.

The FSC teaches the responsibilities and authority that come with wearing the diamond. We all know that the first sergeant directly influences everything that goes on in a company. Everything from daily soldier training, disciplining of the troops when needed, administrated issues for soldiers, logistics support for missions/tasking, and finally keeping up the

morale within the company. The FSC provides each student an opportunity to learn from the small classroom/group dynamics and experience and share the experiences of fellow classmates. The FSC curriculum is very intensive from start to finish. First sergeants are graded on a total of four exams before they graduate. The key to success here at the FSC is research ability of Army regulations, field manuals and Department of the Army pamphlets. By the time students leave the FSC, they will know exactly which manuals to go to to extract the information needed to help their commanders run daily company operations.

This course is three weeks long and is no piece of cake. MSgt. Matthew West, the SGL or instructor, is a graduate of the FSC also. MSgt. West, with a note of pride in his work, helps keep all students on track. Class 10-02 Group Charley consists of 12 students who have been in the Army 17 years or longer.

1st Sgt. Phillips Laboy
Headquarters & Alpha Company

All cyclists need helmet

Regarding your article on bicycle safety in the Aug. 21 issue of the *Rocket*, I quote from the Alabama Department of Public Safety Driver Manual, page 26, "Every bicycle driver regardless of age on a roadway has to wear an approved helmet." The complete

list of driving rules for bicycles is found on pages 25 and 26 on the following link: <http://www.dps.state.al.us/dl/pubs/driver-manual.pdf>.

Thomas Derington
Westar Corporation

Shedding light on bicycle safety

The recommendation in the recent *Rocket* article on bicycle safety for cyclists to avoid major roads during rush hour is a good goal, but getting through a gate and to the office makes this almost impossible. I have two options to ride from my southeast Huntsville home to work, Martin Road east or Redstone Road to Patton. Both have disadvantages, but there is no way to avoid a major road. I take less traveled roads when available and leave my house at 6 a.m. to avoid the bulk of the traffic. Better road design would make major roads more bicycle friendly. Wider lanes and paved shoulders give cyclists and motorists the room to get by each other. After extensive lobbying by the City of Huntsville and cycling community, smooth paved shoulders were included in Phase I of the Martin Road widen-

ing project. Many cyclists now prefer Martin because of the paved shoulders. I am sure motorists appreciate them as well. However, it is my understanding that shoulders will not be included in Phase II from the gate to Patton Road. I hope we do not squander the opportunity to make Martin Road a bicycle friendly option all the way onto the Arsenal.

I also want to point out that avoiding riding in the dark is increasingly difficult as the days get shorter. Cyclists are required by law to use a headlight and are strongly recommended to use a tail-light when riding in darkness. Brightly colored clothing and reflective accessories help make cyclists more visible but are no substitutes for lights.

David L. Stone
RD&E Center

Worker supports Acquisition Demo

I wish to express my opinion concerning the proposed Acquisition Demonstration for AMCOM employees. I am for this program because I have another 25-30 years to work and seeing what it has to offer me is a good thing. The union and AMCOM have come to an agreement that is unique to the Acq Demo program. No other DoD activity participating in Acq Demo has the benefits that this agreement will offer. Under the agreement, employees would continue to receive the general pay increase for five years. This doesn't occur in other Acq Demos after the first year the GPI is added into the pool of money for salaries and awards. Under Acq Demo even the worst performing employee will still benefit. Hopefully Acq Demo will make employees and managers more accountable for what they do and realize that the more they contribute the better the rewards will be.

I know that those employees who are at a step 10 at the top level of the band (i.e., GS-11, step 10) may be thinking that there is no benefit for them. But, there is; you would still be getting your GPI every year with the opportunity for a salary increase and an award. Right now all you get is your GPI.

If you are a GS-12 you have the opportunity to earn a GS-13 salary without competing because you will be in the same band. The complaint is that "I don't have the chance to be a GS-12 because I am stuck at the GS-11." Look around, our work force is getting older and more people will start to retire. AMCOM's largest group are GS-12s who could be retiring in 3-5 years. There

will be opportunities out there if you are willing to work for them.

I also know that there are people who are "unhappy" with management and may feel that the way to "get back" at management is to reject Acq Demo. The truth is — if Acq Demo is voted down by the union, it will only adversely affect those of us in the bargaining unit (i.e., regular employees). The non-bargaining (i.e., managers, supervisors) are going to Acq Demo in March '03 and will receive the benefits that Acq Demo offers and the rest of us are back to square one.

Right now we have the opportunity with the proposed union agreement to reap better benefits than what the basic Acq Demo offers. If the union votes "no," we will have to start over and may not get all that we are being offered in this proposed agreement. Management may not be as willing to give or some entity higher in the chain may direct that we go to Acq Demo and have no say in the way it is implemented.

I ask that people would please go to the AMCOM home page and then to the Acq Demo web site and read the draft agreement (under what's new at AMCOM) and if you are a member of the union that you would vote for Acq Demo or if you are friends with a union member that you would let them know how you feel. I am afraid that a "few" people will be responsible for the "majority" to lose out. As I stated at the beginning, this is my opinion and I have chosen to express it.

Lisa E. Lowry
Resource Management

Rocket rumblings: On preventing school violence

"The problem of school violence isn't as daunting as it appears, moms and dads have to get involved in their children's school and class activities," responds **Archie L. Brown**, of contractor Sverdrup, to the *Rocket* rumblings question on how to prevent school violence.

"They have to become a fixture in the school so that kids know you care about what they are doing or not doing. Parents are the key to deterrence."

Send your opinion — in 50 words or

less — to the *Redstone Rocket* at the following e-mail address: skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil; or via fax at 955-9138.



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Suggestion turns trash into treasures for aviation units

Huey engine deemed 'unserviceable' repaired on-site for \$485 in parts, labor

By SANDY RIEBELING
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Three years ago, Mark McMillin had something to say. Getting it heard through the Army Suggestion Program earned him \$10,000.

When McMillin needed Huey engines to support his foreign military sales customers, he found himself in an unusual situation. Governments were waving money at him to supply the T-53 engines but the Army didn't have any to sell.

What the Army did have was huge supply of unserviceable T-53 engines. So many, in fact, that they were forced to reduce the numbers in stock to meet regulation. When McMillin found out the Army was going to get rid of 20-30 engines, he asked if he could have them instead.

McMillin is the project officer for the Integrated Materiel Management Center's Project OLR. He's stationed at Fort Hood, Texas, and is the government officer that oversees Project OLR.

"The OLR site at Fort Hood is a field detachment of AMCOM," McMillin said. "Our primary mission is to perform modifications or add new systems to fielded helicopters. I work with a very skilled team of contractors that handles all kinds of modifications and special projects. We fit in between depot level maintenance and what the units can do in the field. We do the jobs that are too small or needed too fast for depot work but are too big for the green suiters."

So three years ago, when faced with a demand for engines but no supply, McMillin found a way to create a supply.

"Because the Army is retiring the Huey, there was no issuable engines to line units in stock and no overhaul contract at the depot or with a contractor. Just a lot of engines turned in as code F which means they're unserviceable — they need an overhaul."



Larry Ross/CLR

MR. FIX-IT— Mark McMillin, project officer at Fort Hood Project OLR, inspects the documentation on T-53 helicopter engines undergoing repair and return at the AMCOM facility in Killeen, Texas. McMillin earned a \$10,000 suggester award for developing a program that repairs the unrepairable without breaking the budget.

McMillin requested and received 20 T-53 engines that were headed out of the Army's stock and into the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office to be sold as scrap. Since the item is simply coded as F with no other indication of the problem, McMillin wasn't sure what to expect. He was hoping that he could piecemeal at least a few engines out of the 20 to support the fleet.

"The only thing wrong with the first engine we looked at was documentation," McMillin said. "The second engine, it took \$485 in parts and labor to repair. It went on down the line like that. We'd open the can and see what was in there. Sometimes it was nothing but worms. Out of 20 engines, about one-third became reserviceable. We were able to harvest parts from some of the other engines."

T-53 engines cost about \$350,000 each. McMillin placed a \$9,800 limit on the cost of repairs for an engine. If it was

going to total more than that, it was used for harvesting or scrapped.

With his success, McMillin tried to interest management in creating a program to triage or screen high dollar F stock or unserviceable items, such as helicopter engines, to document the exact problem before they are sent to DRMO.

"We basically got a random sampling of what was in the F stock and we were able to recover a third of the engines," McMillin said. "There are probably 200-300 F stock T-53 engines at the depot. We may be able to recover 100 engines for under \$10,000 each, without overhauling at the depots."

"But I couldn't get anyone to bite," he said. "The cost avoidance alone would fund the program. I talked to everyone I could about triaging the F stock engines and all I got was very frustrated. When I told my boss, he recommended I submit it (the idea) as a suggestion because then it

would have to be staffed by the appropriate activity."

He submitted the suggestion in March 1998 and in June 2002 was notified that it had been approved by the IMMC. McMillin was awarded \$10,000 for a suggestion that had a validated projected savings at \$2.1 million.

"I was shocked and a little embarrassed that I got an award for the idea," McMillin said. "I was just trying to offer a concept that would help the Army and keep our guys safe and supported on the mission."

But McMillin calls the T-53 suggestion "just a poster child" for a technique that could be applied to many other high dollar, critical items such as the UH-60 main rotor blade and the AH-64 shaft driven compressor and tail rotor hub.

"I don't want to do depot level work on AMCOM parts or disrupt the workload of the depot or get in the way of the green suiters on the other side," McMillin said. "If you could triage it before it goes to the depot, you would know if it needed to go to the depot or to a limited repair activity."

By triaging F stock, the Army could better classify the stock so that it could be priced appropriately for FMS and only the truly unserviceable stock would end up at the DRMO. Triage could also assist the depots because if they know what parts are going to be needed to fix each engine, or assembly or whatever stock item is being repaired, they can order parts before receiving the item. Repair time will be cut and readiness increased.

And while he's saving the Army money, he's able to put a little in his own pocket, which is an "unexpected bonus but a welcomed surprise."

"I'd submitted it so long ago I'd almost forgotten about it," McMillin said. "My wife, Lorraine, is happy as the dickens with the suggestion program. She tells me to put my ideas on paper more often."

How the money is spent depends on McMillin's son, Matt, a senior in high school. "He's an outstanding kid. If he keeps up his grades, maybe I'll get to fix up my old Jaguar. Otherwise I'll be putting it toward tuition."

Organizational day brings out hot competition

Brigade students, staffers represent their units

By SPEC. EVAN MORROW

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Competition was going to be fierce. The soldiers of the 59th Ordnance Brigade prepared to battle each other for pride and bragging rights. Drill sergeants took off their hats, instructors stepped out of the

classroom, and students took a break from study to compete indoors and outside Thursday during organizational day.

The Marine Detachment, companies of the 832nd Ordnance Battalion and HHC 59th all fielded teams for ping pong, billiards, swim relays, spades, horseshoes, softball, basketball and volleyball and the culminating event, the tug of war. Many servicemembers competed in more than one event, and overall participation was high.

Most of the events were scheduled for the morning before it got too hot. The running events for both men and women were held at the quarter-mile track across from the softball field. These included 100-meter sprints, a 4x400 meter relay and a one-mile run.

In the men's 100, Charlie Company took first place followed by Bravo Company and the Marine Detachment. Charlie Company also took first place in the men's 4x400 relay followed by Bravo Company and the Marine Detachment. In the women's 100, the NCO Academy took first, followed by HHC 59th and Delta Company. In the men's mile, Charlie Company again won followed by the NCO Academy and Bravo Company. Bravo Company won the women's mile, followed by the Marine Detachment and Charlie Company.

The basketball tournament, held at Redstone Fitness Center, brought out fierce competition from all the teams.

Everyone had to bring their "A" game to avoid early elimination in the single elimination tourney. The spirit of good sportsmanship prevailed as teams fought to make it to the next round. Players that weren't involved in a particular game had the tough job of refereeing the contest. The NCO Academy prevailed followed by Bravo Company and Delta Company.

The softball tournament was a one-

pitch, one-shot event. The entire slate of games took less than an hour to crown a champion. In the end HHC 59th came out on top, followed by Delta Company and Bravo Company.

The tug of war was the final and most anticipated event. There were only 10 competitors pulling on the rope when the bullhorn sounded, but an enthusiastic throng cheered on the teams.



Photo by Spec. Evan Morrow

GET THERE— Bravo Bulldogs first base coach Sy Smith encourages runner Dustin Thompson to beat out the throw as HHC 59th first baseman Aubrey Fencer looks on.

Protestant congregation plans annual rally at chapel

Rally Day features music, picnic lunch

By SKIP VAUGHN

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Members of the Protestant community are invited to rally at Bicentennial Chapel on Sept. 8.

The annual Protestant Rally Day will begin with the usual Sunday morning activities which include Sunday school at 9:30 and morning worship at 11. There will be T-shirts for those who volunteer to support chapel programs; and an informal contest to see who has dressed in the best country and western attire.

"We're seeking people who would like to affiliate with the chapel and come out and serve the community through their commitment with the chapel here," Chaplain (Lt. Col.) John Penney, the garrison chaplain, said.

After the worship service, an indoor picnic at the chapel will begin at 12:30 p.m. A box lunch and drinks will be provided.

"And then we'll have some special gospel music groups," Penney said. "One will be the Florida Boys, which is a fairly well-known Southern gospel quartet group, and the Sweet Adelines."

This will be followed by a youth rally at 2 p.m. behind the chapel, featuring two bands playing contemporary music. The opening band consists of members of the chapel's Club Beyond, part of the Military Community Youth Ministries. The other band is a local youth group called Victory Seven.

"It's an opportunity to see what kids on the base are doing as far as being involved in Club Beyond," Mike Fishel, Club Beyond community director at the chapel, said. The club here has about 20 members.

Rally Day, a free event, is organized

by members of the Protestant Parish Council under president Bob Whiteford. GG Todd serves as the program coordinator. The Protestant congregation has about 210 members and is looking to grow, according to Penney, who arrived July 11.

"The purpose (of Rally Day) is like a homecoming thing where we're kind of welcoming people back from summer vacation," he said. "I think it'll be a nice fun day to come out."

Retired CSM Whiteford said the event has been going on for years, even back to when he was the post command sergeant major. "It's kind of a time when the church can sort of reach out not only to members who come Sunday after Sunday but to the community to try to make sure that soldiers and family members know that this opportunity is there," he said. "It's traditionally been sort of the beginning of our calendar year as far as Bicentennial Chapel. It's kind of a time for awareness as far as hey the chapel's here for you."

Patty Wilson, the religious education coordinator at the chapel, said, "Sunday School at Bicentennial Chapel is a longstanding tradition. We have classes for literally all ages, for education never ends. Robert Raikes was a newspaper editor who developed the concept for Sunday School in 1780. All poor children worked in the factories six days a week. On Sunday they ran wildly about with no discipline; they could not attend regular school because they had no money and had to work. Raikes developed a school for these children on Sunday, the one day they did not have to work. The children learned to read and to understand the Bible. From that time, Sunday School has spread across the world and we at Bicentennial Chapel are proud to continue this tradition."

For more information about Rally Day, call Penney at 842-2174 or Whiteford at 876-5855.

Women workers encouraged to soar to full potential



Photo by Skip Vaughn

REACH FOR STARS— Dr. Amanda Goodson, director of safety and mission assurance at Marshall Space Flight Center, delivers keynote address at the Women's Equality Day program held Monday in Bob Jones Auditorium.

Space agency supervisor addresses equality day

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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A Marshall Space Flight Center supervisor challenged her audience to reach new heights at the Women's Equality Day program held Monday in Bob Jones Auditorium.

"If women can fly in space, just imagine what we can do on the ground," Dr. Amanda Goodson, director of safety and mission assurance at Marshall, said. She was keynote speaker for the program marking the 82nd anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, giving women the right to vote. Local federal agencies presented outstanding achievement and supervisory awards.

"Dare to Soar" was the theme for the program jointly sponsored by the Defense Intelligence Agency's Missile and Space Intelligence Center, Marshall Space Flight Center, Office of Personnel Management, Aviation and Missile Command, Army Engineering and Support Center, and the Space and Missile Defense Command.

Goodson showed a video of women serving as astronauts and performing other duties with the space agency.

"Don't mingle in mediocrity because you can soar in excellence," she told the estimated 300 attendees.

Billie Swinford, federal women's program manager at Marshall, traced the history of the women's suffrage movement which began in 1848 and culminated with the 19th Amendment in 1920. "We've come so far but we still have far to go," she said.

"Dare to soar, that's a message for all of us," Carol Toney, Huntsville customer service office director and federal women's program manager for Office of Personnel Management, said. "If we think we can, we will."

Outstanding Achievement Award recipients included Dawn Christian of Marshall Space Flight Center, Maxine Doherty of AMCOM Corporate Information Center, Donna Hamilton of Logistics Support Activity, Robbie Holcombe of SMDC, Lorna Jackson of Marshall, Inge Kuberg of Marshall, Stacy Potts of AMCOM's Acquisition Policy and Reform Division, Patricia Powell of Ordnance Munitions and Electronic Maintenance School, Arthurine Shackelford of Missile and Space Intelligence Center, Tammy Simmons of Marshall and Mary Young of Army Engineering and Support Center. Supervisory Awards went to Garfield Boon of SMDC, Bernice Collins of South Central Civilian Personnel Operations Center, Goodson of Marshall, John Loyd of Army Engineering and Support Center, Tom Pieplow of AMCOM's Integrated Materiel Management Center, Richard Russell of Missile and Space Intelligence Center and SFC Clarissa Buchanan of Ordnance Munitions and Electronic Maintenance School.

Installation management headquarters to open doors

Centralized agency begins in October

By SSgt. MARCIA TRIGGS
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — A centralized agency designed to manage Army installations and fence funds for soldiers and their families will open its headquarters Oct. 1 in Arlington, Va.

The Installation Management Agency will execute the concepts outlined by Army Secretary Thomas White when he pledged last year that the service would implement better business practices.

Transformation Installation Management has evolved into more than cutting layers of bureaucracy, said Philip Sakowitz Jr., the new agency's deputy director. The transformation phase has led to the opening of the IMA, and the make-up of the Army is only one very visible change to be made, said IMA officials.

The Army's plan is to reduce military personnel in garrison, said Sakowitz, who has spearheaded the Installation Management task force since March.

"The only positions we can say for sure will remain is the garrison commander and command sergeant major," Sakowitz said, inferring other garrison positions will be filled by civilians.

IMA has also become a mechanism for making sure the Army is taking care of its personnel, and running to standard,

Sakowitz said.

The purpose of the agency is to make sure funds are funneled into programs to which it is allocated. Funding for an installation will be separated into two different pots, and no longer will it migrate between mission and base operations. The outcome is expected to be soldiers better trained for mission, improvement in well-being programs, and better workplace and living conditions on post, Sakowitz said.

Installation management will also be held accountable to a standard, he added.

"All soldiers have a standard operating procedure for doing their job — the Army didn't have one," Sakowitz said. "We hadn't been training to any standards in installation management. However, we have 95 base-operation services, examples are: childcare centers, dining facilities and gyms. We're going to write an SOP for all of them."

As an example of consistent base operations throughout the Army, Sakowitz talked about gym improvements. Plans are currently being written to have all gyms in operation for 90 hours a week, he said. The square footage of the gym will be based on the installation's population and all programs run by the gym, such as intramural teams, will also be under the same guidelines.

Change will not happen overnight, Sakowitz said. It will take about a year before all the standard operating procedures will be written. The headquarters staff will

only be 40 percent staffed in October, and fully staffed sometime in 2003.

Soldiers will start to see upgrades in their living quarters and where they work in fiscal year 2003, but most changes won't take place until the 2004-05 time frame, Sakowitz said.

'I believe in my heart this is good for the Army.'

Philip Sakowitz Jr.
Installation Management Agency

There are a number of changes the Army will undergo under IMA, and one will be the elimination of borrowed military personnel, Sakowitz said.

"Soldiers who work at the gym and basic trainees who pull KP (kitchen-patrol) duty are examples of borrowed military personnel," Sakowitz said. "Most of the time we don't have the funds to man those facilities, so we pull soldiers out of training."

The IMA will be run by Maj. Gen. Andy Aadland, who is currently the commanding general for the Maneuver Support Center, Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. He will also head up the seven IMA regions. The regions' headquarters will be located at Fort Monroe, Va.; Fort McPherson, Ga.; Rock Island Arsenal, Ill.; Fort Sam Houston, Texas; Heidelberg, Germany; Fort Shafter, Hawaii, and Yongsan, Korea.

"There are a lot of people who are con-

fused by the IMA regions, Sakowitz said. "They think that we are going from 14 major commands to seven regions. We're going from 14 to one. It's not central unless you go to one."

The MACOMS — such as Forces Command and Training and Doctrine Command — will no longer be the sole management authority for installations.

MACOM commanders will still be engaged in installation matters, as six of the commanders will represent all MACOMS and sit on a newly established installation management board of directors, Sakowitz said. However, the MACOM commanders will not be involved in day-to-day operations, he said.

"I believe in my heart this is good for the Army," Sakowitz said.

Not only will IMA be taking care of people, managing all installations under one umbrella will enable the Army to capitalize on bulk purchasing to save money.

In a speech, White said that the Army has 300-plus separate contracts with Microsoft. That's an inefficient use of money, Sakowitz. In the future, one contractor could serve all the Army's state or regional supply and utility needs," he explained, "and the money saved can go back into well-being programs for the community."

Just as Transformation on the tactical side is developing in stages, TIM will change the Army at a slow but steady pace, Sakowitz said.

Troops cheer Rumsfeld during his visit to Fort Hood

Defense secretary addresses civilian hiring, security

By SFC KATHLEEN RHEM
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld was a big hit with soldiers and other servicemembers at the Army's Fort Hood when he told them he's all for hiring more civilians to let troops concentrate on warfighting.

Rumsfeld was speaking at a town hall meeting on the Texas base Aug. 21 when a soldier asked about hiring more civilians "so that soldiers can do our job, training for war."

"I feel very strongly that we ought to move people in uniform out of tasks and responsibilities that don't require people in uniform," Rumsfeld said before he was interrupted by applause. "We organize and train and equip people for warfighting and not for things that can be done every bit as well by civilians or by contract workers."

Another soldier turned the subject to one Rumsfeld has spoken often of lately — leaking classified information to the media.

"When we have some war plans and they're coming from you and the boss, I hate to think that our health, our security

is jeopardized based on media trying to get the story out first," a senior noncommissioned officer said.

Rumsfeld didn't pull any punches in his response. "The unprofessionalism today is as bad as I have ever seen it in terms of the handling of classified information," he said.

He said it's easy for servicemembers to blame the media, but "they didn't get the information from nowhere."

The secretary said it is beyond his comprehension how a person cleared to handle classified information can be so "irresponsible and callous to the lives that can be lost," and added that anyone who leaks such information to the media ought to be in jail.

The meeting wasn't without its light-hearted moments. One family member asked if 2004 would see a Rumsfeld-Colin Powell bid for the White House. Powell is the secretary of state.

"Thank you very much for that nice thought, but I've taken myself out of active competition," Rumsfeld said after chuckling. "I would think at age 70 I've served pretty long."

Rumsfeld thanked the troops for their continued service to America. He said the troops of Fort Hood had earned a reputation as "America's hammer."

"When the president sends you off, the enemy knows that our country is serious about a mission," the secretary told the assembled troops.

He also stressed the importance of transforming the military even as the country fights a war on terrorism. "We are in a new security environment, and unless we transform this institution... we will not be able to provide the security for the American people that it's our job to do," he said.

Before traveling to Fort Hood, Rumsfeld met with Bush and other national leaders at the president's ranch in Crawford, Texas. Talking to reporters after the meeting, Bush said discussions included such national security topics as missile defense, contingency plans and transformation.

"Secretary Rumsfeld and his team have done a really good job of beginning to

shape the philosophy, a new philosophy in the Pentagon," Bush said.

Rumsfeld noted the discussion touched on the defense budgets for 2004 through 2009 "even though the 2003 budget is still pending before the Congress."

"The cold, hard fact is that the United States lives in a very different security environment today... than we did prior to Sept. 11," he said in Crawford. "We have the task in the Department of Defense of seeing that we're able to provide the kind of defense capabilities and deterrence that will enable our country to contribute to peace and stability and to protect the American people."

Bush also said Iraq did not come up in discussions. "We will continue to talk with... the people concerned about peace and how to secure the peace," he added. Parties to be consulted include Congress, friends and allies, he noted.



Photo by Spec. Greg Heath

TOWN HALL MEETING— Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld answers a soldier's question at a town hall meeting during his visit to Fort Hood, Texas, Aug. 21.



Joe Ramirez/Photo Lab

Training agreement

Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Sorenson, program executive officer for tactical missiles, and Jim McCullough, dean of the South Region Defense Acquisition University, sign a partnership agreement to establish an ongoing employee education and training benefit relationship. The Research Park based school entered a similar agreement with the Targets Management Office. "This forms an important union between the school and the acquisition work force," Sorenson said. "We are glad to be able to put this union into practice."

■ Drug testing for civilians increased this year

Testing

continued from page 1

adding another 1,000 people to the testing pools.

"It was a big job, getting the civilian program going but once it was implemented, the people have been really great about it," Ruby Turner, alcohol and drug control officer for the Army's Substance Abuse Program at Redstone, said. "There haven't been any positive tests for civilians but a couple of tests appeared to be diluted. We're checking with legal about what to do next in these cases."

The Army takes this program seriously. The consequences of a positive drug test can be severe, anything from ordering a soldier or employee to complete a drug rehabilitation program all the way up to termination of employment. And because repercussions can be severe, the Army

takes precautions to assure the drug testing processes and procedures are followed meticulously.

Redstone's Substance Abuse Program was put under the microscope Aug. 13-15 during an Installation Biochemical Testing Program Inspection, conducted by the Army Center for Substance Abuse office in Washington. From that office, MSgt. Kimberly Henry spent three days at Redstone digging, diving, snooping, observing, checking and rechecking the program and how it is conducted on post.

The program was green-lighted the whole way through.

While on post, Henry observed every phase of drug testing for Charlie Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion, from the 4:30 a.m. roll call, through briefings, paperwork, collection procedures, packing and turn-in for more than 80 soldiers. She also observed the civilian program which operates with slightly different pro-

cedures. More than 200 specific issues were checked and addressed, not just that each item was completed but done in the proper sequence with the appropriate witnessing.

Other than actual testing, all the paperwork and files in the office were inspected. Issues such as where the supplies are kept and who has access to each area and how the areas are prepared before testing occurs. The program was also checked to assure that appropriate and adequate education and prevention information was conveniently available to soldiers and civilians.

"The whole process is important," Henry said. "(The regulation) states exactly how the procedure should be accomplished and it is important that each process be completed to standard. My impression of the testing procedure is that Mrs. Hagy and Ms. Turner have done an excellent job of ensuring the UPLs know the correct procedure, the importance of it and how it enhances the unit to be combat effective."

UPLs or Unit Prevention Leaders are soldiers within each unit, usually drill sergeants, who are given 40 hours training and certified in how to conduct drug testing.

"Our UPLs are good soldiers," Turner said. "It's a thankless job and even though some of the soldiers who have to test have a bad attitude, the UPLs always keep a positive attitude. We nominate a UPL of the Quarter as a way to recognize soldiers for the good job they do."

Substance Abuse Program inspections occur every two to three years. Redstone

has always scored well in the past, earning the "green light" for the program. About two years ago a renovation began on the facility to accommodate the anticipated civilian expansion of the program.

"It was a struggle to get the money to do all this," Joe Winston, division chief in the Military Personnel Services and Operations Division, said. "It was no easy task to get the construction complete but we did it. We added two offices, one latrine, a waiting area and improved the classroom with furniture, projectors and computers. More niceties will come as the money comes in."

All soldiers are tested at least annually. The commander can order additional testing as needed. Civilian pools are tested randomly at 50 percent annually. That means that some may be tested every year while others may never be tested. Random selection for testing from each pool occurs monthly using the Health Evaluation Information for Drugs in Industry software, also known as HEIDI.

Typically, tests are designed to detect amphetamines, marijuana and cocaine but testing for a fuller spectrum is done on a rotational basis and includes barbiturates, opiates, LSD and steroids and more specific testing can be done if there is reason to suspect a particular drug is being used. According to Winston, marijuana is still the drug of choice.

Turner stresses there is help available for people with drug or alcohol abuse problems, and their families. For more information, call the substance abuse program office at 876-2990.

Launcher product office lifts off for future

Staff supports both
THAAD and Patriot

By PAM ROGERS
For the Rocket

Lt. Col. Mark Arn has been named head of the newly-created THAAD/Patriot Launcher Product Office.

The Theater High Altitude Area

Defense Launcher with Patriot interface is a new design for THAAD that will also support Patriot PAC-2 and PAC-3 missiles. Since these missiles require much the same functions from their launchers, this single launcher design will save hundreds of millions of dollars over the life cycle of the programs. Duplication of effort is being eliminated during the design, development, test, operations and support phases

of the launcher's life cycle.

The launcher will meet all the current and future technical requirements for both weapon systems and will fit onto a C-130 transport.

Maj. Gen. John Urias, program executive officer for air and missile defense, presented the charter establishing the new office to Arn during a ceremony Aug. 19 at the Lower Tier Air and Missile Defense Project Office. Also participating in the ceremony were Col. Tom Newberry, LTPO project manager, and Col. Patrick O'Reilly, THAAD project manager.

Having a "joint" product office that serves two project offices is a unique situation, and this one combines resources from two of the best project offices in the Army, Newberry said.

Arn, a 1985 graduate of West Point, has served most recently as an Army systems coordinator for National Missile Defense and THAAD, and as executive officer to the assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology.

Command workers recognized for system support contribution

The Deputy to the Commander for System Support recognizes the following personnel with a Special Act or Service Award for their significant contribution in the integration of AMCOM and PEOs/PMs operations:

- Patti Martin, Research Development and Engineering Center
- Ronnie Chronister, Research Development and Engineering Center
- Larry Gunter, Research Development and Engineering Center
- Marilyn Phillips, Integrated Materiel Management Center
- Bill Andrews, Integrated Materiel Management Center
- Fred McDowell, Integrated Materiel Management Center
- John Cranston, Integrated Materiel Management Center

- Chuck Anderson, Corpus Christi Army Depot, Texas
- Kenneth Higgins, UH-60 PM, PEO Aviation
- Glen Buttrey, PEO Aviation
- Barry Pike, PEO Air and Missile Defense
- Beth Wise, PEO Tactical Missiles
- Edna Dye, Sparkman Management Office
- Rickey Moore, Sparkman Management Office
- Patricia Andrews, South Central Civilian Personnel Operations Center.

DCSS expresses the command's appreciation to the aforementioned professionals for contributions that have improved, and will continue to improve, readiness of our aviation and missile systems.



Photo by Pam Rogers

NEW CHARTER— Lt. Col. Mark Arn, head of the newly-created THAAD/Patriot Launcher Product Office, speaks during the office's chartering ceremony Aug. 19.

Soldiers changing plans after re-up bonus suspension

Re-enlistment bonuses stopped until October

By Spec. EVAN MORROW

Staff writer

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Sgt. Ronald Steele of 59th Ordnance Brigade had planned to re-enlist within weeks but changed his mind. He's not alone.

Many soldiers have altered their plans since the Army suspended re-enlistment bonuses until October because of success of its retention program. The success has exhausted the 2002 fiscal re-enlistment budget, according to the U.S. Army Personnel Command retention office. The Army has already re-enlisted more than 51,600 soldiers against a goal of about 49,000 or 105 percent of the projected goal.

"I'm going for a 1A career bonus, but I'm definitely going to wait until the suspension is lifted before re-enlisting," Steele said.

Soldiers who were scheduled to re-enlist between Aug. 19 and Sept. 30 and were otherwise eligible for a bonus will be advised to delay their re-enlistment until Oct. 1 or later or when the program will be funded for fiscal year 2003.

"This is how the force gets shaped," said proponent chief Robbie Robinson. "This suspension could however have a tremendous effect on MOS's that are currently in line for a bonus, but may not be in line for that bonus in fiscal year 2003."

Soldiers who are scheduled to leave the Army by Sept. 30 will be allowed to voluntarily extend until after Oct. 1 so they can re-enlist for a bonus.

The programs frozen include the selective re-enlist-

ment bonus, the targeted selective re-enlistment bonus and the broken service selective re-enlistment bonus programs. The freeze will not affect Army Reserve or Army National Guard re-enlistment bonuses. Nor will it stop the payment of re-enlistment bonuses that have already been granted.

Soldiers who re-entered the Army or re-enlisted before Aug. 19 and were entitled to a re-enlistment bonus will continue to be paid their bonuses. Soldiers entitled to an anniversary payment from an earlier re-enlistment will continue to receive their anniversary payments during this suspension.

Those in military occupational specialties that do not have a bonus are not affected by this suspension and can

continue to re-enlist.

More than 100 of the Army's military occupational skills had offered bonuses and will be affected by the suspension.

More information about the job specialties that were receiving re-enlistment bonuses can be found in military personnel message 02-174 dated June 16 and message 02-205 dated July 16. These messages can be found on <https://www.perscomonline.army.mil>.

Career counselors throughout the Army will be able to answer questions about re-enlistment options.

Editor's note: Adapted from an Army News Service article.

Army school system seeking students for Command & General Staff College

COMMAND AND GENERAL STAFF COLLEGE RELEASE

Majors and senior captains desiring to advance to lieutenant colonel need Command and General Staff College to be competitive for promotion. An effective way of achieving this military education is through the local Total Army School System.

CGSC is available through attendance (active duty) at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., through small group instruction delivered by the CGSC Battalion at U.S. Army Reserve Centers, or through correspondence. Both the USARC and correspondence are taught in four phases. Students in the USARC mode attend classes, usually on Monday evenings, from November through April, of about four

hours duration for Phases I and III. Phases II and IV are accomplished through attendance at Fort Dix, N.J., during a two-week ADT/AT period or through correspondence.

Small group instruction offered by the CGSC Battalion has many advantages over the correspondence method:

Most officers lead busy, responsible lives that make it difficult to find time to pursue the correspondence method of instruction. Many officers find they need the structure of regularly scheduled class meetings to make consistent progress through the course and to avoid situations where time has nearly run out and there is too

See Education on page 16

Furry discovery sparks search for adoptive family

Kitten found at Sparkman Center needs new home

By KELLEY LANE

Staff writer

kelleyga@bellsouth.net

Most things found in parking lots are of your everyday variety: keys, wallets, the occasional jewelry. Every now and then, they are of a more interesting nature. In July, Vicki Fuller found out they are sometimes furry.

Fuller was on her way to work as the chief of labor relations in the American Federation of Government Employees Local 1858. She had no sooner pulled into a parking space at the Sparkman Center when she noticed a small group of people gathered nearby. Curiosity led her over and she discovered that the focus of this group was a small lump of black fur. There amongst the cars in front of building 5308 was a tiny kitten.

It was terrified and alone. There were no signs of its mother or other kittens. No one knew how it had got there. A man among the group picked up the cat. Fuller asked him if he planned to take it. When he professed that he did not know, Fuller decided she would.

Having a cat of her own, Fuller knew that the first thing to do was to have the kitten checked out by a veterinarian. After spending a night with the vet for observation and a thorough exam, the kitten, now dubbed "Sparky," was given a clean bill of health. Sparky was determined to be about 6 weeks old and male. He is of a shorthair variety, with big gold-green eyes and a small white patch on his chest.

"I already have an older cat and I wasn't sure how it would take to having another in the house, especially one this small," Fuller said. So she contacted Therese Gabrielle

of the Feral Cats Program of the Greater Huntsville Humane Society. Fuller was familiar with the program from their involvement with abandoned cats in her own neighborhood, and their excellent care for them. Gabrielle was able to provide Sparky with a temporary foster home until a permanent place for him can be found. There he is learning all the necessary social graces of cat life.

"Sparky has not been a minute's trouble," Gabrielle said. Sparky is now about 12 weeks old and has had all the shots and medical care a kitten needs thus far. He has already been neutered.

"We need to be able to ensure that this problem (abandoned kittens) is not perpetuated," Gabrielle said.

Sparky is rooming with another kitten of about the same age and situation, a female named Georgie. Many other cats of various ages, shapes and sizes are also in foster care until they are permanently placed. The Feral Cat Program is also always on the lookout for new foster homes. Reliable people are always in short supply.

Sparky has become a loving and playful ball of black fuzz. He is beautiful, friendly and healthy. Now all he needs is a home. Sparky is looking for a kind family or individual to call his own. He needs love, attention and someone to scratch behind his ears. In exchange he will provide devotion, companionship and the frequent nuzzling of legs, arms, etc. Being a part of the Redstone family, albeit a small furry one, Sparky will only go to the most qualified.

Persons interested in adopting Sparky, another cat or in becoming a foster home, should call Gabrielle at 489-CATS, the program's 24 hour hotline. Leave a message and they will return your call. An application is required, with references, to ensure that every new home is a loving and permanent one. There is no cost involved in adopting Sparky. Fuller just wants to make sure that he goes to the best home possible.



Photo by Kelley Lane

JUST CURIOUS - Sparky, a stray cat found outside the Sparkman Center, is in foster care and available for adoption at no charge.

Soldier: Pagano Gym workout well worth the drive

Army Reservist's unit based in Sheffield

PFC Tearesa Harris doesn't mind commuting to Pagano Gym two or three times a week.

That's where she works out on the exercise equipment. The Madison resident is a member of the 336th Adjutant General Company (Postal), a Reserve unit in Sheffield.

"I just commute. There's no gym over there so I come over here to use the facility," Harris said.

Pagano Gym, building 3474 on Honest

John Road, is open 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday and holidays. Authorized users include active duty and retired military, Morale Welfare and Recreation members, Reserve Component, Defense Department employees, non-appropriated fund employees and family members of the aforementioned with a valid identification card.

"Anybody that's got a federal ID card can use the facility," Steve Landram, a recreation specialist and certified personal trainer, added.

For more information, call Pagano Gym at 876-6701/2943.

Bravo Company, HHC 59th favored entering tourney

Bravo Company and HHC 59th have finished atop the regular season standings for troop slow-pitch softball.

The postseason tournament is scheduled Aug. 27 through Sept. 5 at field 14.

In makeup games last week MEDDAC beat 902nd 18-7, Bravo defeated the Marines 15-2 and Headquarters & Alpha dropped the NCO Academy 21-2.

Here are the final standings for the season:

- American Conference - Bravo (10-3), Charlie 167th (9-4), Headquarters & Alpha (8-5), 902nd (5-8) and NCO Academy (5-8).

- National Conference - HHC 59th (10-3), MEDDAC (8-5), Delta (7-6), Charlie 832nd (2-11) and Marines (1-12).



Photo by Skip Vaughn

STEP BY STEP— PFC Tearesa Harris uses a horizontal ladder Aug. 21 at Pagano Gym.

Skip's picks

Auburn, Alabama favored to win openers on road

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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It's time for college football and that means "Skip's Picks."

Each week I'll predict winners for selected games in major college football.

I'll try to pick the top games each week without dodging the tossups. Tie games count as ties in my record.

Bowl games won't count against my percentage. It's too tough to pick bowl winners; and besides, I'll need a break. So, I'll just pick the bowls for fun.

There's plenty of football before January and I'm eager to start predicting, so let's go!

Here are Skip's Picks for this week:

Northwestern at Air Force - **Air Force**
Alabama at Middle Tennessee - **Bama**
Ala.-Birmingham at Florida - **Florida**
Auburn at Southern Cal - **Auburn**
Tennessee vs. Wyoming - **Tennessee**
Connecticut at Boston College - **BC**
Baylor at California - **Baylor**
Central Florida at Penn State - **PSU**

Alabama A&M at Jacksonville State - **Jax State**
Syracuse at Brigham Young - **Syracuse**
Colorado vs. Colorado State - **Colorado**
Virginia at Florida State - **Florida State**
San Diego State at Fresno State - **Fresno**
Vanderbilt at Georgia Tech - **Georgia Tech**
Louisiana Tech vs. Oklahoma State - **Tech**
Miami (Ohio) at North Carolina - **North Carolina**
New Mexico State at South Carolina - **SC**

Texas Christian at Cincinnati - **TCU**
Clemson at Georgia - **Georgia**
East Carolina at Duke - **East Carolina**
Eastern Illinois at Hawaii - **Hawaii**
Houston at Rice - **Rice**
Illinois vs. Missouri - **Illinois**
Kansas at Iowa State - **Iowa State**
Kentucky at Louisville - **Louisville**
Louisiana State at Virginia Tech - **LSU**
Maryland vs. Notre Dame - **Maryland**
Florida A&M at Miami (Fla.) - **Miami**
Washington at Michigan - **Michigan**
Mississippi State at Oregon - **Oregon**
Navy at Southern Methodist - **SMU**
Troy State at Nebraska - **Nebraska**
Oklahoma at Tulsa - **Oklahoma**
Illinois State at Purdue - **Purdue**
Tulane vs. Southern - **Tulane**
Wisconsin at UNLV - **Wisconsin**
Utah at Utah State - **Utah**



Courtesy photo

Losing Cards

There was fun and excitement – and some unhappy St. Louis Cardinals fans – during the annual Civilian Welfare Fund Council sponsored bus trip to Atlanta, Aug. 2-4 for the Cardinals vs. Braves baseball series at Turner Field. Braves fans had the upper hand on this trip as the Cards lost that weekend. Forty-eight folks from Redstone participated in the council event.

■ Staff college promotes exchange of views

Education

continued from page 12

much material yet to cover.

Small group instruction is provided by experienced CGSC instructors, usually senior majors or lieutenant colonels. As well as being a ready resource for resolving questions about the material, the instructors guide your study — ensuring you cover and understand the most important material while minimizing any wasted effort on your part.

Perhaps the most enjoyable part of instruction is the group dynamics evident

in every class. Professionally, each class is composed of active duty, Reserve, and National Guard officers (usually 50/50 active and USAR/NG) representing a mix of branches. This promotes an exchange of views and perspectives that simply can't be obtained through correspondence, and actually reduces the workload for the individual officer. Informally, each class soon develops its own personality, and vigorous discussions and higher student grades manifest the camaraderie.

Interested officers should call Lt. Col. Greg Komp at 876-8825 or Lt. Col. Dave Smith at 774-1048.

Redstone Arsenal Boy Scout soars to Eagle status



SCOUT'S HONOR— Daniel Burns, right, of Boy Scout Troop 308 at Redstone Arsenal, receives a certificate of recognition Aug. 10 during his Eagle Scout court of honor. Making the presentation is Col. Bob Devlin, deputy post commander.

Photo by Jan Beach

Daniel Burns of Boy Scout Troop 308 on Redstone Arsenal received Boy Scouts' highest rank, Eagle, during a court of honor Aug. 10.

Family, friends, members of Troop 308, and special guests were invited to the ceremony. He received an Army Youth Certificate of Recognition from Col. Bob Devlin, deputy post commander.

To earn Scouting's highest award Burns earned 33 merit badges, served in several troop leadership positions, and completed a community service project.

His service project took place at the new walking trail at Phillip's Park in the Monrovia and Harvest area. Burns, members of Troop 308, members of Venture Crew 412 of Huntsville Christian Church, and other volunteers had a total of 236 hours in the cleanup of the trail area. The cleanup not only improved the trail's appearance but also made it safer for the youth and adults who use the park.

Burns attended the National Jamboree last summer at Fort AP Hill, Va. This summer he attended Whitefire, a weeklong Boy Scout leadership course. He also attended Philmont, the Boy Scout's High Adventure Camp near Cimarron, N.M.

Burns has camped 74 nights, hiked 110 miles and has given an additional 89 service hours with Troop 308. He attends Catholic High School.

Announcements



Sports & Recreation

Walkathon

"America's Walk for Diabetes" is Oct. 19 at the University of Alabama-Huntsville campus. Walk teams are needed. For more information, call the Huntsville ADA 539-4404.

Pineapple open

The eighth annual Pineapple Open fundraising golf tournament, presented by the Officer and Civilian Women's Club, will be held Oct. 4 at 8:15 a.m. at Redstone Golf Course. The rain date is Oct. 11. Entry fee is \$60 for individual players, \$45 for RSA members and \$10 for lunch only. Signup deadline is Sept. 27. For more information, call Christine Hackett 313-7626.

Bowling leagues

Fall bowling leagues are forming at Redstone Lanes, building 3707 on Aerobee Road. Available leagues include Monday Mixed (6:30 p.m.), Tuesday Mixed (6 p.m.), Wednesday IMMC Mixed (5 p.m.), Wednesday Men's (7:30 p.m.), Thursday Ladies (9:15 a.m.), Thursday Mixed (5 p.m.), Thursday Boeing Mixed (7:30 p.m.), ROCC Ladies (9 a.m.), Friday Mixed (6:30 p.m.) and Saturday YABA (9 a.m.). For more information, call 876-6634. The Wednesday night (7:30) league has openings for a few more four-man

teams and will start its season after Labor Day, according to Ray Weinberg who can be reached at 885-0089.

Hunter safety orientation

The mandatory Hunter Safety Orientation will be held Thursdays from 4:30-6 p.m., Aug. 29, Sept. 5, Sept. 19, Oct. 3, Oct. 17, Nov. 7 and Nov. 21 in the Recreation Center, building 3711. All persons hunting on Redstone Arsenal, including guests, must complete the annual Hunter Safety Orientation and a state-approved hunter education course. This live orientation is suggested for all first time hunters and those who have not hunted on post in a few years. The course should be on computer soon at Outdoor Recreation. For more information, call Outdoor Recreation 876-4868/6854.

Post swimming pools

All pools will close for this season Sept. 2 at 7 p.m. Pool No. 3 (Goss Road) is closed until next year because of maintenance problems. Pool No. 1 (Vincent Park) will be open weekdays and both Pools 1 and 2 (Challenger Club) will be open on weekends for the rest of the season. Hours are 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. For more information, call Pool 1 at 876-6605, Pool 2 at 876-6758 or Outdoor Recreation 876-6854/4868.

Dance clinic

Sparkman High's varsity dance team will

sponsor a dance clinic for kindergarten through 12th grade Sept. 7 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the school's gym. Registration is 8:30-9:30 that morning. Cost is \$25 per child and \$15 for the second child in the same family. Awards will be given to all participants and concessions will be available. For more information and pre-registration, call 837-0331.



Conferences & Meetings

Training in communication

Rocket City International Training in Communication Club meets at 5:45 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at Covenant Presbyterian Church, a half block east off Whitesburg Drive. Visitors are always welcome. Membership is open to both women and men. Dues are \$55 per member per year whether paid by corporate sponsorship or the individual. ITC is a non-profit organization. Membership dues are tax deductible. For more information, call Fay White 539-6953.

Alcoholics anonymous

An Alcoholics Anonymous group meets each Thursday at 11 a.m. in Sparkman Center building 5304, room 4309. For information call 313-1478. The Redstone Arsenal group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets each Wednesday at noon and Friday at 5:15 p.m. in room 11 of Bicentennial Chapel.

Retired officers

The Retired Officers Association will hold its monthly luncheon meeting today at 11 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Madison County Probate Judge Tommy Ragland is to speak about "Protecting Information on DD Form 214." For more information, call retired Navy Cmdr. Matthew C.F. Boenker 885-4274.



Miscellaneous

Butler High reunion

The Butler High Class of 1972 is planning its 30-year reunion for Oct. 4-5 and seeks current information about former classmates. Former '72 classmates, other interested alumni and faculty, past and present, are invited to participate in this milestone event. For more information, call Sharon Wise Pendrey 880-1969 or Greg Welch 881-4001.

Oktoberfest vendors

Redstone Arsenal's annual Oktoberfest, Sept. 12-15, needs arts and crafts vendors. Please bring samples and items to display and sell at the Oktoberfest. Interested vendors should call Brandie DeRemer or Diane Campbell 313-1202 or 876-5492. You can also access the online application at the following web site: www.redstonemwr.com.

See Announcements on page 19

Announcements

Post Exchange news

The GSA Voyager Credit Card can be used at both the Redstone One Stop for gasoline and the PX Tire Center for tires, batteries and maintenance on GSA vehicles.

St. Barbara dinner

The Redstone Arsenal/Huntsville chapter of the Air Defense Artillery Association is sponsoring its annual St. Barbara Dinner Dance saluting the Air Defense Artillery branch Oct. 26 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Scheduled speaker is Lt. Gen. Dennis Gavin, deputy commander for initial entry training for the Training and Doctrine Command. For more information, contact the chapter secretary at the following e-mail address: mhowell@colsa.com.

Fox Army Health Center hours

Fox Army Health Center will be on holiday hours Friday and Monday for Labor Day. The Primary Care Extended Hours Clinic will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. both days for scheduled appointments. The Pharmacy will be open regular hours Friday and closed Monday. All other clinics

will be closed. Advice Nurses are available 24 hours a day, year-round, at 955-8888 or 1-800-223-9531 to provide care advice and schedule urgent care appointments for the Primary Care Clinic.

Post Exchange hours

The PX will have the following holiday hours Labor Day, Monday: Main Store, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; concessions, closed; GNC, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; mall barber shop, closed; beauty shop, closed; furniture store, closed; One-Stop Goss Road, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; service station, closed; Burger King, closed; Military Clothing, closed; barber shop, building 3479, closed; and the food court - Anthony's, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Cinnabon, closed; Baskin Robins, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Robin Hood, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and Church's, closed.

Soldier show

The U.S. Army Soldier Show will perform two shows Oct. 3, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., at the Von Braun Center Concert Hall. The Soldier Show features Army personnel in a 90-minute singing and dancing extravaganza. The theme for this

year's show is "Freedom." Morale, Welfare and Recreation will distribute tickets to military personnel. Redstone Arsenal employees will be able to get tickets through MWR at the Recreation Center, building 3711. The Huntsville-Madison County Chamber of Commerce will also distribute tickets to the public. All tickets for public distribution should be available around mid-September. More details will follow. For general information, call MWR at 313-1202/1203.

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, in building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Thursday from 9-5. Walk-in consignment hours are Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9-12:30. The shop has appointments Wednesdays and Thursdays from 12:30-3. Donations are accepted. The shop is now a collection site for New Futures; please bring your cell phones that are in working order (Audiovox, Ericsson, Kyocera 3035, Motorola and Nokia) and all your inkjet, fax, printer, copier and laser jet cartridges. For more information, call 881-6992.

Abandoned vehicle

A white 1987 Acura Legend has been moved to the Provost Marshal Office impound lot, building 3453. Its vehicle identification

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Courtesy photo

Young scholar

Randall Perkins, son of Mae Nell Perkins, secretary for AFGE Local 1858, is heading to Tuskegee University on a Distinguished Presidential Scholarship. Perkins graduated from Butler High this year in the top 10 of his class. He received scholarships from Xavier University of Louisiana, University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, University of Alabama in Huntsville, and a \$1,000 award from Buffalo Rock Company/Pepsi for the Corporate Minority Scholarship Program.

Tuition assistance policy

Beginning Oct. 1, Department of Army will pay the full amount of tuition and fees for college or training courses provided by an approved institution when the cost does not exceed \$250 per semester hour. The \$250 ceiling includes lab fees, computer fees, and security facility fees where required. When an institution's charges exceed \$250 per semester hour, the Army will pay \$250 per semester hour, and the soldier is required to pay the remaining costs. The new policy increases the annual TA amount from \$3,500 to \$4,500 per fiscal year per soldier. The student is still responsible for maintaining a passing grade; and any failure, withdrawal or incomplete must be resolved before additional TA is provided. For more information, call the Education Center 876-9761.

Auto skills shop

Winter is hard on your battery, but hot weather is absolute torture on it. Visit MWR Auto Skills, building 3617 on Entac Circle (off Gray Road), and have its trained technicians help you perform battery maintenance, oil changes before leaving for the family vacation, and much more. Hydraulic vehicle lifts, tools, diagnostic testing equipment, and certified instructors are always on hand for you. The shop is open Wednesday through Friday from 1:30-10 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Call 955-7727 for more information.

Logistics achievement awards

For 2002 the Integrated Materiel Management Center will present two E.A. Young Logistics Achievement Awards – the Management/Executive Award for GS-13s and above (or military equivalents) and the Professional/Technical Award for GS-13s and below (or military equivalents). Eligible population for the awards include all Team Redstone personnel who contribute to the logistics mission at AMCOM and meet the awards criteria. Nominations will be accepted through Friday. The awards will be presented at a luncheon Oct. 29 at 11:30 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. For more information, call Faye Yates 876-1757 or Debbie Foley 842-6783.

Officer and civilian women

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club will have its Fall Membership and Activities Signup Coffee, Sept. 10 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Officers and Civilians Club. Light refreshments will be served. All active duty and retired officers and their spouses, as well as all active and retired federal employees, grade GS-9 and above, and their spouses are invited. No reservations necessary. For more information, or if you would like to teach a class or activity, call 716-0107.

Chapel schedule

Bicentennial Chapel has Catholic mass Saturdays at 5 p.m. and Sundays at 9:30

a.m.; and the Catholic congregation's annual picnic is Sept. 8. Protestant service is 11 a.m. Sunday; and the Protestant congregation's annual Rally Day is Sept. 8. For more information, call the chapel 876-2409.

Catholic community

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic community at Bicentennial Chapel announces parish registration is required every year for active duty, retired military, DoD personnel and their families. Registration will follow mass Saturday and Sunday; and an ice cream social will be held in conjunction. CCD classes will resume in September. The annual parish picnic is Sept. 8 at noon at Vincent Park. Mass will not be held at the picnic site. All soldiers are invited to a Soldier Retreat, Friday in Irondale. The bus will leave the barracks at 4 a.m. and return at 6 p.m. Sign up after mass; and this includes free meals and transportation. Weekend mass is held 5 p.m. Saturday and 9:30 a.m. Sunday.

School age services

Fall break and intersession camp registration for School Age Services and middle school/teen programs is Sept. 2-20 at central enrollment registration, building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road. The annual fee is \$15 per person. Please bring a copy of the child's immunization record to registration. For more information, call Chris Carter 876-3704 or Pam Berry 955-6309.

Benefit concert

Trombonist Harry Watters Jr. and his brother, trumpeter Ken Watters, will lead the Watters Brothers Quintet, Sept. 8 at 3 p.m. in a concert to benefit the Harry H. Watters Memorial Scholarship Fund for Excellence in Jazz at UAH. The concert will be held in the Chan Auditorium in the Administrative Science Building on the University of Alabama in Huntsville campus. The opening group will be the Huntsville Jazz Orchestra, an 18-piece big band led by Don Bowyer, director of jazz studies at UAH. Tickets are \$15, \$10 for students. Tickets are available at Shaver's Bookstore, AB Stephens Music and the UAH Music Department. For more information, call 824-6436.

Army family team building

Ever wonder about military traditions and courtesies? Why a chain of command and chain of concern is important? What Army and community resources are available to you and, just what are your benefits and entitlements as an Army spouse, servicemember or civilian employee? If so, plan to attend "White Gloves and Combat Boots," Sept. 17-19. This three-evening session is provided free of charge by the Army Family Team Building staff and will be held in building 3491 on Honest John Road from 6-9 p.m. each night. Space is limited. Call 876-5397 by Sept. 13 to enroll.

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A - Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees serviced by Redstone CPAC.
B - All Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees (SF-50 documenting service required).
C - Compensably Disabled Veterans receiving 30% or more compensation from a military service or the VA (SF-15 and other documentation required).
D - All Department of Defense competitive service employees and certain DOD excepted service employees (SF-50 documenting service required)
E - Executive Order 12721 eligibles. (Former overseas family member employees who meet eligibility requirements)
F - All Federal Employees
H - Severely handicapped persons (Documentation from State Vocational Rehabilitation Service required)
I - Interagency Career Transition Assist Plan (ICTAP). (Non-DOD Federal employees who have been displaced by RIF.)
R - Reinstatement eligibles (former competitive service Federal employees who meet eligibility requirement.)
T - Transfer eligibles (non-Army Federal competitive service employees) (SF-50 documenting service required)
V - Certain veterans and prior military members who meet the eligibility criteria under VRA or VEOA programs (DD-214s or proof of service required).
U - All U.S. citizens

NOTE: If you are interested, carefully read the announcement for the official area of consideration, qualification requirements, and application procedures.
NOTE: The Nonappropriated Fund (NAF) Personnel Office accepts applications for various types of positions, i.e., Cashier, Food Service, Custodial, Bartender. A complete listing of all available positions can be viewed on the web at www.redstonemwr.com, or you may telephone 876-7772.

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identification is SF Form 256. Employees who wish to change their handicap status can do so by going to their personnel specialist and asking for form 256 or they may get the form from the Internet. After the employee makes the changes needed, he or she must return form 256 to the personnel specialist. The personnel specialist will do all the work from that point on. When new employees hire in, they sign this form. If an employee's status changes while he or she is employed by the government, it is the responsibility of the individual with a disability to make the changes of their handicap by updating their records. For more information, call Tom Wharton in the EEO office 876-3436.

Beginning with babies

Learn what you need to know and do during the first three months to care for your baby and yourself by attending "Beginning with Babies," a free class for expectant parents or parents of a newborn infant at 10 a.m. today at the ChildWise building, 1413 Nike St. For more information, call 876-2798. A class on "Helping Baby Grow" is scheduled Sept. 11 from 11-noon.

Huntsville United T-shirts

The Volunteer Center of Huntsville and Madison County is selling "Huntsville United Sept. 9" T-shirts for that day's patriotic tribute event at Big Spring Park. Shirts

may be purchased on post through the Civilian Welfare Fund Council. The shirts (white with the blue and red "Huntsville United" logo on front) are \$10 each and available in medium, large and extra-large, and can be purchased by check from any CWFC representative. For more information, call CWFC president Charles Urban 955-7662 or vice president Jerry Campbell 876-8138. A list of CWFC representatives is also available at the following web site: https://intranet2.redstone.army.mil/cwfc/01_01/poc_062102.doc. The shirts will also be available in the Post Exchange area.

Infantry unit sendoff

Everyone is invited to a farewell ceremony honoring members of C Company, 1st/167th Infantry (Mechanized), 4th Alabama National Guard, Sept. 5 at 10 a.m. at the Redstone Activity Field on Patton Road. The 167th soldiers have guarded Redstone's gates since October. Rain location for the ceremony is the Recreation Center, building 3711 on Patton Road.

Common access cards

The Military Personnel Office will begin issuing the Common Access Card on or about Sept. 23. The upgrade of the equipment will take place the week of Sept. 9. MILPO will continue to be open but there will be no ID Cards issued from Sept. 9-12. The operating hours for MILPO will continue to be from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Pre-concert message

Chip Enlow, operations clerk at Redstone Bowling Lanes, puts up a message on the marquee sign on Patton Road before last Saturday's concert by the classic rock band Styx with special guest Kansas. He said John Howard, manager of the bowling center, changes the sign to announce special events for morale, welfare and recreation.